

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12

DPW-01 AID-20 RSR-01 OMB-01 SR-02 ORM-03 /119 W

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P 260348 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2234

USDEL JEC PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 9323

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS PINT FINS MILI VS

SUBJECT MR 2 DAILY SITREP, MAY 25, 1973

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON DTD 25 MAY FROM NHA TRANG

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L NHA TRANG 0549

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: MR 2 DAILY SIT REP, MAY 25

1. SECURITY SITUATION: INCIDENCE OF REPORTED MILITARY ACTIVITY IN REGION II HAS CONTINUED AT SAME LOW LEVEL (10-12 INCIDENTS PER DAY) FOR PAST WEEK. TOTAL OF 12 ACTIONS REPORTED IN LAST 24 HOUR PERIOD INCLUDING: SIX VC HARASSMENTS BY FIRE; TWO VC GROUND ATTACKS; TWO VC MININGS OF RVNAF TROOPS; ONE VNAF HELICOPTER SHOT DOWN BY VC GROUND FIRE; AND ONE FIRE FIGHT BETWEEN VC AND RVNAF UNIT ON PATROL. BRUNT OF REPORTED FIGHTING-- SEVEN INCIDENTS -- TOOK PLACE IN NORTHERN BINH DINH, TWO ACTIONS WERE REPORTED IN PHU YEN, AND ONE EACH IN KHANH HOA, BINH THUAN, AND KONTUM. LATTER WAS RELATIVELY MINOR ABF. CASUALTIES: VC: NINE KIA, SIX CAPTURED; RVNAF: SIX KIA, TEN WIA, CONFIDENTIAL

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AND ONE VNAF HELICOPTER 1 00 PERCENT DESTROYED. ONE CIVILIAN DEPENDENT WAS KILLED BY VC FIRE ATTACK ON PF OUTPOST.

2. VNAF HELICOPTER ON RESUPPLY MISSION FOR 22 ND ARVN DIVISION IN TUY PHUOC DISTRICT, BINH DINH WAS SHOT DOWN BY VC AA FIRE ON MORNING OF MAY 24. TWO CREW MEMBERS KILLED AND ONE INJURED IN ENSUING CRASH, WHICH COMPLETELY DESTROYED HELICOPTER.

3. PHU YEN SECTOR REPORTS 14 FARMERS, WHO HAD BEEN ABDUCTED BY VC DURING 1972 SPRING OFFENSIVE, ESCAPED FROM COMMUNISTS AND MADE THEIR WAY TO RVNAF FORCES IN DONG XUAN DISTRICT MAY 23. ESCAPEES CLAIMED THEY HAD BEEN USED BY CAPTORS AS LABORERS AND PRODUCTION WORKERS IN VC WORK CAMP LOCATED IN KILO VALLEY OF DONG XUAN DISTRICT.

4. ICCS: POSSIBLY AS CALCULATED MOVE TO DEMONSTRATE POSSESSION OF ROAD, PRG DROVE ICCS MEMBERS FROM BEN HET TO DAK TO MAY 20. TRIP WAS OCCASIONED BY ARRIVAL OF ICCS FIXED- WING PORTER AIRCRAFT AT DAK TO - A TEST FLIGHT TO SEE IF PORTERS COULD USE DAK TO (NHA TRANG 520, SAIGON 8697 AND NHA TRANG 534, SAIGON 8975). TEST WAS SUCCESSFUL.

5. ICCS TEAM AT BEN HET (REGION III) ENJOYING SOME FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT NOW; PRG DRIVES THEM AROUND OCCASIONALLY IN THEIR SHINY JEEPS, AND THEY CAN WALK ABOUT, EVEN OUT OF TOWN, ACCOMPANIED, OF COURSE. CANDEL REPORT INDICATES INDODEL STATEMENT (NHA TRANG 534, PARA 6) THAT THERE WERE MANY DESTROYED TANKS ON BEN HET- DAK TO ROAD MAY BE EXAGGERATED. CANADIAN CAPTAIN SAW ONLY ONE.

6. ICCS BAN ME THUOT (REGION III) ON MAY 25 HEARD FIRST WITNESS IN INVESTIGATION OF APRIL 12 INCIDENT (NHA TRANG 542, PARA 3, SAIGON 9194) . WITNESS, WHO WAS DRIVER OF TRUCK, DID NOT RPT NOT DESCRIBE ATTACKERS AS DEFINITELY VC. HUNGDEL/ POLDEL EMPLOYED USUAL HARASSING TACTICS.

7. DEMONSTRATIONS: MAJ. GEN. TOAN, MR II COMMANDER, HAS APPARENTLY SENT ORDERS TO ALL PROVINCES TO HOLD DEMONSTRATIONS DEMANDING THAT THE COMMUNISTS ABIDE BY THE PARIS AGREEMENT AND THA THE ICCS INTERVENE ON BEHALF OF CONFIDENTIAL

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SOUTH VIETNAMESE POW' S STILL HELD BY THE COMMUNISTS. PRESUMABLY IN COMPLIANCE WITH THESE INSTRUCTIONS, LARGE BUT PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATIONS TOOK PLACE ON MAY 24 IN NHA TRANG AND BAN ME THUOT.

8. PSYOPS CONDUCTED BY OCS AND NCO CANDIDATES IN MR II: RECENTLY ENDED PSYOPS EFF

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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